

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----017728 010453Z /16

R 301122Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2579

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 6723

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PK, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

1. AMB MADE INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON FONMIN AZIZ AHMED

JUNE 30.

2. FONMIN SAID GOP IS DEEPLY INTERESTED IN IMPROVING RELATIONS

WITH USG. IT IS WATCHING US ACTIONS CAREFULLY, AND EVERY

US STEP ADVERSE TO THESE RELATIONS IS IMMEDIATELY NOTICED.

THERE IS NOW A VERY SENSITIVE POPULAR MOOD, AND IF ELECTIONS

ARE HELD (AND OF COURSE IF THERE IS AN ACCORD WITH THE

OPPOSITION GROUP, THEY WILL BE HELD), THE QUESTION OF

OUTSIDE INTERVENTION WILL COME UP IN SOME FORM, ALTHOUGH

PRIMEMINISTER BHUTTO WILL TRY TO CONTAIN IT.

3. AMB SAID THAT AS SECRETARY VANCE HAD ASSURED FONMIN

IN PARIS, THE US HAD NO PLAN OR INTENTION, AND HAD TAKEN

NO ACTIONS, TO INTERFERE IN ANY WAY. THERE HAD OBVIOUSLY

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BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS ON THIS MATTER. WE HOPE

TO PUT THE PAST BEHIND US AND MORE TOWARD FRIENDLIER

RELATIONS AND BETTER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS. AMB SAID

HE HOPED TO CALL ON PRIMIN BHUTTO SOON AT HIS

CONVENIENCE.

4. FONMIN SAID HE WOULD LIKE THE PERSONAL CONTACT

BETWEEN HIMSELF AND SECRETARY VANCE TO CONTINUE. HE THOUGHT SOMETHING HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, AND THE LIKELIHOOD OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS REDUCED. STILL, HE SAID, THERE IS A QUESTION IN HIS MIND, AND IN MINDS OF OTHERS, AS TO THE DEGREE OF IMPORTANCE USG PLACES ON RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN. THE DECISION TO REFUSE THE SALE OF A-7'S HAD MADE HIM WONDER. US ACTIONS ARE CAREFULLY WATCHED FOR EVIDENCE OF JUST HOW MUCH PAKISTAN MATTERS IN THE US GLOBAL VIEW. PAKISTAN WISHES TO BE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS. AZIZ AHMED ASKED AMB TO REPORT HIS VIEWS "FULLY" TO SECRETARY VANCE. AMB ASSURED HIM HE WOULD DO SO.

5. AMB REPLIED THAT SECRETARY VANCE, AND ALSO PRESIDENT CARTER WITH WHOM AMB HAD MET BEFORE LEAVING WASHINGTON, HAVE SAID THAT GOOD RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN ARE IMPORTANT TO USG. WE HOPE TO RESUME THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN TRADITIONAL. THE A-7 DECISION WAS NOT AIMED AT US-PAKISTAN RELATIONS, BUT WAS PART OF A USG GLOBAL POLICY ON ARMS TRANSFERS, AS HAD BEEN EXPLAINED TO GOP AT THE TIME; WE REGRETTED THE PRESS LEAKS ON THIS AND OTHER MATTERS. USG CONTINUED TO BE WILLING TO DISCUSS GOP PURCHASES OF IMPORTANT ARMS ASIDE FROM A-7'S.

6. AMB SAID THAT IT WAS NATURAL FOR GOP TO LOOK FOR EVIDENCE OF USG ATTITUDES. IT WAS EQUALLY NATURAL FOR THE CONFIDENTIAL

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USG TO WATCH CLOSELY FOR EVIDENCE OF GOP'S REGARD FOR RELATIONS WITH THE US, AND FOR THE DEGREE OF IMPORTANCE THE GOP PLACES ON THESE RELATIONS.

7. COMMENT: MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS A REQUIRED PROTOCOL CALL DURING WHICH SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS ARE NOT USUALLY RAISED. ALTHOUGH AZIZ AHMED DID NOT BREAK ANY NEW GROUND, HE DID TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPLAY THE THEME WE HAVE HEARD FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS FROM THE GOP--PAKISTAN IS THE AGGRIEVED PARTY AND THE GOP IS WATCHING OUR ACTIONS CLOSELY TO SEE IF WE ARE SINCERE IN OUR PROTESTATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP. THE MINISTER ALSO CONFIRMED, AS WE SUSPECTED, THAT IF THERE IS AN ELECTION THE PPP WILL USE ANTI-AMERICANISM AS AN IMPORTANT CAMPAIGN THEME. ALTHOUGH THE MFA WILL TELL US THAT BHUTTO IS NOT SANCTIONING THE ATTACKS ON US, SUCH A CAMPAIGN COULD NOT TAKE PLACE WITHOUT, AT THE VERY LEAST, THE PM'S ACQUIESCENCE.  
HUMMEL

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## Message Attributes

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